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Logan's Run

By Erin Logan



kansas state

collegian

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K-State donates books to Iraq

Katie Reilley
staff writer

K-State is partnering with nonprofit organization Help Us Learn...Give Us Hope to donate about 10,000 textbooks to Basrah University in Basra, Iraq. Retired Army Col. Gary LaGrange started the organization in the basement of his home after a soldier informed him about the great need for school supplies in Baghdad. More units began to ask for similar supplies as goodwill projects. Soon, schools in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa were benefiting, LaGrange said. K-State's involvement with the Help Us Learn...Give Us Hope foundation is nothing new, said Art DeGroat, director of military affairs and a retired Army lieutenant colonel. "We have been collecting donated books for the foundation for a number of years as a responsible way to get a useful secondary value of un-needed texts here," DeGroat said. President Kirk Schulz, DeGroat and other K-State administrators visited Basrah in November as guests of a Fort Riley outpost. DeGroat saw firsthand the neglect and misuse of the university that was once the crown jewel of the Middle East as a result of Saddam Hussein's rule. Many textbooks were destroyed, resulting in a shortage of current, viable books, LaGrange said. Basrah University officials, despite the hard task of rebuilding the education system, were hopeful for the future. The visit resulted in a partnership between the two universities. "I saw a new dawn of opportunity for their university leaders to rebuild, build modern competencies and educate the members of their society," DeGroat said. One reason K-State's focus is on Iraq is to encourage Iraqi students to study at K-State, DeGroat said. K-State is not alone in assisting Iraq with rebuilding their universities, DeGroat said; seven other American and international universities are doing the same. While K-State is focusing on donations toward higher education, the Help Us Learn...Give Us Hope foundation needs supplies for any grade level, such as pens, pencils, chalk and dictionaries. Find a full list and more information at the foundation's website, helpuslearngiveushope.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters to the editor. They can be submitted by e-mail to letters@pub.ksu.edu, or in person to Kedzie 116. Include your full name, year in school and major. Letters should be limited to 350 words. All submitted letters may be edited for length and clarity.

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March 14 - May 6, 2011 8-week term

MONDAY/WEDNESDAY

Arabic II
ARAB 182
15272
5:30-8:30 p.m.

Public Speaking I
COMM 106
15845
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Public Speaking II
COMM 321
15843
8:05-10:30 p.m.

Feminist Practice/
Applied Non-Violence
DAS 590
15861
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Intermediate
Microeconomics
ECON 520
15816
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Expository Writing II
ENGL 200
15819
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Earth through Time
GEOL 102
15821
5:30-7:55 p.m.

History of the United States Since 1877
HIST 252
16232
8:05-10:30 p.m.

College Algebra
MATH 100
15510
5:30-7:55 p.m.

The Psychology of Power
PSYCH 599
16049
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Police and Society
SOCIO 362
16210
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Fld/Women's Studies
WOMST 590
15953
5:30-7:55 p.m.

TUESDAY/THURSDAY

Accounting for Investing and Financing
ACCTG 241
15186
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Intermediate
Macroeconomics
ECON 510
15814
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Europe Since World War II
HIST 574
16072
5:30-7:55 p.m.

General Calculus and Linear Algebra
MATH 205
15120
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Introduction to Moral Philosophy
PHILO 130
16243
5:30-7:55 p.m.

United States Politics
POLSC 325
15348
5:30-7:55 p.m.

General Psychology
PSYCH 110
15996
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Introduction to Sociology
SOCIO 211
16207
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Introduction to Social Interaction
SOCIO 450
16208
5:30-7:55 p.m.

Introduction to Women's Studies
WOMST 105
15278
5:30-7:55 p.m.

TUESDAY/THURSDAY/
SATURDAY

Introduction to Information Technology
CIS 101
15138
5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat.
March 15-April 2

Introduction to Microcomputer Spreadsheet Applications
CIS 102
15137
5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat.
April 5-14

Introduction to Microcomputer Database Applications
CIS 103
15139
5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat.
April 16-26

Introduction to Microcomputer Word Processing Applications
CIS 104
15140
5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat.
April 28-May 7

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Saturday
may have
been last
chance



Sophomore guard Rodney McGruder's 3-pointer would have saved the season. It's too bad the shot was waved off soon afterwards.

K-State was a 10th of a second away from walking out of the Coors Event Center with its second straight road win. K-State would have moved up to fifth place in the conference standings, too.

Now, K-State is in desperation mode. After an emotional letdown, the Wildcats have to bounce back quickly to take on the possible No. 1 team and in-state rival Kansas. Wherever K-State turns, a brick wall is there to greet them. It is just not meant to be, ever. K-State cannot get over the hump.

“Every single time K-State is on the verge of making a magical run or on the doorstep of greatness, someone is always there to push the Wildcats back onto the grass.”

Last year's run to the Elite Eight was an emotional roller coaster. Yet, K-State always found a way to win the big games. The Butler Bulldogs, last year's tournament darlings, ended K-State's run. At the time, the loss was devastating.

K-State was on the doorstep of the Final Four. Michigan State's head coach Tom Izzo has been an exception to the rule during the last ten years. His teams have found ways to make annual tournament runs, the same way fruitcake always makes it to the annual Christmas party.

For K-State and its fans, the trip would have been well deserved. K-State would have ended a 40-year drought and possibly won a national championship. It would have been the school's first.

Now, K-State is in the midst of a humbling season. We all know the story by now. It's been a devastating fall from the top. People have criticized head coach Frank Martin for his tactics and players have been thrown under the bus for their actions.

Sports are never easy. This is especially true if you are a K-State fan. Every single time K-State is on the verge of making a magical run or on the doorstep of greatness, someone is always there to push the Wildcats back onto the grass.

So, it should be no surprise to people, that K-State's dream season has been nothing but a disaster. This is the K-State way. Most everyone remembers Michael Bishop's fumble in 1998. Everyone figured that there would be a make-up along the way for that gaffe.

Maybe I am wrong about K-State's supposed curse. There is still plenty of basketball left and K-State still has a chance to knock off Texas and Kansas. Who knows? If history is any indicator, though, this season is a lost cause. I just don't know how much more water this sinking ship can take.

I understand that it is basketball and these things happen. Now, Martin has to recharge the batteries of his players and get them ready for Kansas. Martin has always said that if you can't get ready for 31 games, then you can't play for him. If Martin's statement holds true, then this team will be ready.

Supposedly, Martin's teams are mentally tough. Their biggest test will come today. I don't even think Earl Woods could prepare Tiger Woods for this.

Paul Harris is a senior in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu.

HEARTBREAKER

Buzzer-beater waved off, Wildcats drop tight game

Tyler Scott
senior staff writer

After a sluggish first half, the game came down to an official's decision in the rematch of K-State and Colorado. Sophomore guard Rodney McGruder's buzzer-beating 3-point bucket was waved off and the team fell to 16-9 and 4-6 in the Big 12 Conference, making the chance of a late conference run that much slimmer.

K-State got off to a strong start, going up 7-4 within the first four minutes. Junior forward Jamar Samuels scored four points and McGruder knocked down an open 3-pointer. Freshman guard Shane Southwell even added a block on Colorado's Alec Burks.

The game was even at 10 with less than 12 minutes to play as Samuels, McGruder and Pullen were the only players with points. Samuels also picked up two early fouls along with Kelly and Pullen. Samuels would later pick up his third foul with a minute and a half to play in the first half. Senior forward Curtis Kelly was making an early impact for the team after grabbing five rebounds in the first 10 minutes.

Both teams were also having trouble finding the bottom of the net, as Colorado struggled through a six-minute drought without a field goal. The score stood at 15-10 with just under eight minutes to go in the first half.

Colorado's worst enemies were turnovers, as the Buffaloes committed 11 of them. However, the Wildcats were not able to take a lot of advantage of this, as the Buffaloes closed out the ugly first half with a 7-1 run to cut K-State's halftime lead to 23-21.

The Wildcats shot an awful 7-of-29 from the field, including a 2-of-12 mark from beyond the arc. Jordan Henriquez-Roberts led the team with five points. Colorado was a bit better from the floor, hitting six of 21 attempts and going 9-for-10 from the charity stripe.

“We don't want to make mis-



Shane Southwell, guard, blocks while passing during the game against Nebraska Feb. 2 at Bramlage Coliseum.

takes early in the game,” head coach Frank Martin said. “There were a lot of mistakes over the course of the game. We missed a lot of open shots and overall it's about everything.”

In the second half it started to get a little bit chippy. Colorado struck first taking a one point lead after it knocked down a 3-point basket. The Buffaloes would go on a 15-5 run to make the score 36-28. Trouble struck for Colorado, though, as its

star player Alec Burks picked up his fourth foul after elbowing Southwell under the chin. Burks left with just four points and Southwell only converted the second free throw. The Wildcats trailed by five points, but would later extend it to an 8-0 run to tie the game at 36.

With under eight minutes to go, the game was still tight. The Wildcats led by three points at 47-44 after freshman guard Will Spradling

knocked down a 3-pointer to put the team up. Pullen however, picked up his fourth foul of the game and Colorado came within one point after hitting two free throws.

The first person to exit the game due to foul trouble was Colorado's Marcus Relphorde with five minutes to play. The Buffaloes also had three other players with four fouls at this point. Andre Roberson was the next to leave with three and a half minutes to play. The game was tied at 48 after Pullen could not convert on the free throws.

With 1:20 to play, K-State took a one-point lead after Samuels dunked the ball down for an easy two points. Burks would later get fouled and convert two free throws giving Colorado a 54-53 lead. He finished the game with eight points.

“We did alright on him (Burks),” Martin said. “We guarded them with a little size and Shane did a halfway decent job on them defensively.”

K-State trailed by two points at 58-56 with a second left after Pullen purposely missed a free throw. After a Colorado timeout, the ball was in-bounded cross-court to McGruder, who pivoted to spot up for a contested 3-pointer. He sunk it to give the Wildcats a 59-58 lead with no time on the clock. However, it was ruled that the ball left McGruder's hand after the time expired, so the points were negated and the Buffaloes left with a win.

“I thought he (McGruder) got the shot off in time,” Pullen said. “But then they showed the replay and it was clear he didn't get it off in time. It's a tough emotional ending because you go from thinking you won the game with a buzzer-beater to losing the game by one shot.”

The team finished the game shooting 31 percent from the floor, including a rare 6-of-30 from beyond the arc. Free throws were a big difference-maker, as the Buffaloes were 18-of-22 and K-State was 18-of-31. Samuels led K-State in scoring with 13, while Pullen added 12 and McGruder chipped in 11.

Wildcats drop contest at Iowa State, end win streak

Paul Harris
sports writer

Streaks are meant to be broken. K-State learned that lesson twice in one week. The Wildcats fell to the Iowa State Cyclones 61-53 in Ames, Iowa, on Sunday. The loss dropped K-State to 6-4 in conference and ended their five-game win streak against north division opponents.

K-State came out of halftime down 11 points and battled back with tough defense and gritty post play, but was unable to put the ball in the basket as Iowa State went cold.

Assistant head coach Kamie Etheridge said that junior forward Jalana Childs was still trying to find her confidence against the Cyclones.

Childs was saddled with foul trouble in the first half. Childs came out in the second half and helped K-State chip away at the Cyclones halftime advantage. She scored 19 of her 21 points in the second half.

Childs used an array of post moves to free herself from the Iowa State forwards. Childs even drew a foul after taking a high dribble hand-off from junior



Senior guard, Kelsey Hill, drives to the basket against freshman guard Chassidy Fussell on Wednesday against Texas in Bramlage Coliseum.

forward Branshea Brown.

K-State got within two points, but Iowa State turned towards their upperclassmen. Junior point guard Lauren Mansfield was clutch down the stretch. After Childs narrowed the Iowa State lead to three points, Mansfield hit a jumper over Childs' head as the shot clock ended.

Mansfield sunk four straight free throws to give the Cyclones a insurmountable seven-point advantage. Bolte was just as influential for the Cyclones. She hit clutch jumper after clutch jumper to keep the Wildcats at bay. The Ida Grove native finished the evening with 25 points. It was the senior's ninth time reaching the 20-point mark in the last 10 games.

Sophomore guard Brittany Chambers was red-hot in the first half. After struggling against Texas, Chambers found her shooting range in Hilton Coliseum. While Childs battled foul trouble, Chambers scored 10 of K-State's first 19 points to give the Wildcats a 19-18 lead.

From there, the Cyclones, led by senior leader Kelsey Bolte, busted out to a 33-25 lead. Sophomore guard Taelor Karr was then issued a technical foul after

she fouled Hallie Christofferson. Christofferson sank four of her eight points at the free throw line. Christofferson also pulled down 11 rebounds for the Cyclones.

Iowa State held a distinct advantage in the post while Childs sat. Head coach Bill Fennelly's squad went to the well many times. Sophomore center Anna Prins used her six foot, seven inch height advantage to bully the Wildcats inside. Prins finished the evening with 10 points.

The Cyclones held a sizeable advantage at the free throw line. K-State shot their first free of the game under the 4-minute mark of the second half. Chambers would make the only other trip for the Wildcats. Iowa State were frequent visitors to the charity stripe. Iowa State finished 21 of 26 at the line.

No other player for the Wildcats scored in double figures. Junior forward Alina Vorenenko scored six points off the bench behind two 3-pointers. Junior forward Branshea Brown and sophomore guard Taelor Karr combined for just seven points on 3-of-15 shooting.

K-State will now travel home to take on Colorado. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Men's golf team opens season at San Antonio today

Justin Nutter
sports editor

After more than three months of waiting, the men's golf team has finally returned to the course.

Over the weekend, the Wildcats opened the spring portion of their 2011 season with a tune-up match against Oklahoma and North Texas in preparation for the Oak Hills Invitational, hosted by UTSA in San Antonio, Texas.

The two-day match, which is set to start at 7:30 a.m. at the Oak Hills Country Club,

is K-State's first regular season action since the Wildcats came in 10th at the Pacific Invitational on Nov. 3, 2010. The tournament's 16-team field is highlighted by a ranked squad and a handful of Big 12 Conference opponents, including No. 20 Texas Tech, Baylor, Iowa State and Oklahoma. The Wildcats will also get a look at in-state rival, Wichita State.

Youth is the theme of the Wildcats' lineup, as four of K-State's five participants are underclassmen. The lineup includes, three freshmen in Thomas Birdsey, Tyler Norris

and Jack Watson. Also competing for the Wildcats is sophomore Ben Juffer and senior Ross Geubelle.

Birdsey, who will be playing in his home state, played in all six of K-State's fall matches and has carded one top-five finish during his inaugural collegiate season. He led all K-State scorers with an even par-71 in Saturday's exhibition match.

Watson also saw action in every fall competition and finished in the top-10 twice. Norris, son of head coach Tim Norris, enters today's competi-

tion with two previous matches under his belt.

Juffer, a participant in the 2010 Big 12 Championship, will look to build on the three top-20 finishes he recorded during the fall campaign. Geubelle, one of just two seniors on the roster, has only played in two matches this season, but he enters today's match as K-State's most experienced golfer with 16 career matches.

This marks the sixth time the Wildcats have participated in a UTSA-hosted meet, including the fourth time since the 2001 campaign.

TOURNAMENT FIELD	
- No. 20 Texas Tech	- Sam Houston State
- Air Force	- Southeastern Louisiana
- Baylor	- Stephen F. Austin
- Illinois State	- Texas State
- Iowa State	- UTSA
- K-State	- Lafayette
- Louisiana-Lafayette	- Tulsa
- North Texas	- Wichita State
- Oklahoma	

K-State Athletic Schedule: Feb. 14 - 20

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Men's Basketball vs. Kansas 8:00 p.m. at Bramlage Coliseum (Live on ESPN).	Men's Golf at Oak Hills Invitational	Women's Basketball vs. Colorado 7:00 p.m. at Bramlage Coliseum (Live on FSQC).		Baseball at Pacific 8:00 p.m. in Stockton, CA (Season opener).	Tennis vs. Arkansas-Little Rock Noon in Manhattan Men's Basketball vs. Oklahoma 3:00 p.m. at Bramlage Baseball at Pacific 8:00 p.m. in Stockton, CA Women's Basketball at Nebraska 7:05 p.m. in Lincoln, NE.	Tennis vs. Tulsa Noon in Manhattan Baseball at Pacific Noon in Stockton, CA
Men's Golf at Oak Hills Invitational All day in San Antonio, TX				Track and Field at KSU Open All day in Ahearn Field House		

STREET TALK

How do you think tonight's basketball game against KU will turn out?

Check out the Tipoff Guide for more information on the game, which starts at 8 p.m. in Bramlage

"I think we'll have a very close game."



Olivia Sieck
SOPHOMORE, THEATRE

"I think we win. No doubt in my mind."



K.C. Wright
SENIOR, FINANCE

"I think we may lose, honestly."



Kassie Summers
JUNIOR, LIFE SCIENCES

"I don't think we're going to win. But I'll still watch it."



Sarah Falke
SOPHOMORE, FOOD SCIENCE

"I'm a faithful K-State fan. I think we're going to win."




Megan Hilliard
SOPHOMORE IN KINESIOLOGY AND NUTRITION

"I think we will beat them."



Mabel Chang
SENIOR, ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

"I hope we do really well but the team doesn't look all together. I hope we can ban together and pull it out though."



James Mackay
SOPHOMORE, BIOLOGY

"I think we are going to do better than we did on Saturday. I think we'll be ready to go on Monday."



Collin Maguire
SENIOR, FINANCE

"I think we'll be out for revenge because of the loss at KU. I think we'll play with a lot of heart."



Becca Stack
JUNIOR IN ACCOUNTING

GIVE LOVE

Show appreciation for more than just girlfriend, boyfriend this Valentine's Day



Beth Mendenhall

For the first time in a long time, I am really unhappy about Valentine's Day. While I appreciate the massive influx of candy into my life, the steady stream of jewelry and flower ads makes me acutely aware of my single status.

There's nothing wrong with flying solo, but the Valentine's atmosphere tends to make one feel like happiness and intimate companionship share an extreme causal connection. It makes us feel unfulfilled if we lack a certain type of privileged relationship. Perhaps we shouldn't be surprised at the discovery that the profit-motive, via massive investment in advertising, has effectively created a lack that we feel the urge to fill. Our psychological investment in the romantic gift exchange is a recipe for disappointment and affirms a narrow concept of love that excludes many opportunities for celebration.

Every proposed solution must be tempered by an acknowledgement of the resilience of the problem. Abolishing Valentine's Day won't work; its sacred cow status in our cultural lexicon is only rivaled by the power of capitalistic advertising to tell us what we want. What we can do, however, is reappropriate the holiday to better reflect the real love we experience daily.

My favorite author, in my favorite book, once suggested that "a purpose of human life, no matter who is controlling it, is to love whoever is around to be loved." And even if Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. isn't your humanistic cultural icon the way he is mine, the wisdom of this

purpose is reflected in our deep-seated feelings about value: the best thing about life is other people, and the best thing about living is living with them. Valentine's Day should be a recognition of our shared humanity. It should be a celebration of our relationships with other people generally, not an opportunity for the monogamous intimate pair to reaffirm what they already know about their companionship.

The obvious heterosexual bias in commercial valentines contributes to a damaging trend of homophobia that defines "normal" and acceptable romantic love as something that occurs between a man and a woman. Perhaps the reason this exclusive definition has such force is our acceptance of another overly narrow definition of love that excludes the platonic for the romantic. If the strength of love is measured by its contribution to our happiness, or the strong caring we feel for others, then we should be celebrating a lot more than our significant other.

I, for example, feel love for many of the people I work with. I feel love for my immediate and extended family. I feel love for my debate team. I feel love for the Jimmy John's delivery man. I feel love for the single check-out lady who always works nights at Hy-Vee. I feel love for my readers and my editor. I feel love for my landlord, my adviser and the people at Salsarita's. What day do we have to celebrate these relationships? Don't they make more of a difference, to each one of us, every day? Sexuality is not necessary for love, and romance is not necessary to show



Illustration by Erin Logan

someone you appreciate and care about them.

Capitalism's hijacking of our favorite February holiday has marginalized these relationships in our celebration of love, probably because a gift for your fiancé is more expensive than a gift for your friend. The restriction to monogamy also increases the felt obligation to spend; your friends might get a valentine from someone else, but your significant other is definitely going to notice.

This is a call for a cultural reclamation: think long and hard about who you love, why you love them and use Valentine's Day to let them know. The beauty of an expansive

definition of love is it makes Valentine's Day giving easier. Simply telling the people you love how much they mean to you, or that they contribute happiness to your life, is huge. A short list of things you like about someone can be revolutionary. This Valentine's Day, instead of sulking in your PJs with a bottle of Merlot, realize that you are surrounded by love and give love to those that surround you.

Beth Mendenhall is a senior in political science and philosophy. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

Tax, spending cuts needed for long-term solutions



Paige Steele

While nestled comfortably in the one of the top 10 least economically stressed counties in America, according to the Associated Press Economic Stress Index, it is easy for us K-Staters to go about our lives without paying much attention to the grim economic situation that our country faces today. But as America's future, I believe that it's up to our generation to be informed and passionate enough about our nation to ensure it stays on the right track.

According to usdebtclock.org, our current national debt is over \$14 trillion. That is an average of \$127,515 in debt per U.S. taxpayer, an amount that most Americans cannot make in a year, let alone pay off in taxes. Even if every tax-paying citizen in America were to be taxed 100 percent of their income, it would still take about six years to pay off our national debt.

I believe the most efficient way to climb out of our debt is to cut government spending and taxes simultaneously. The debt we have accumulated over the years has come from government spending programs, such as Social Security, Medicare and various welfare projects. Although each of these programs serves a purpose to one group or another, much of this spending has been wasteful. The government needs a plan to prioritize its programs in order to control and reduce unnecessary spending.

While the United States gets some revenue from taxes, most funds for our spending comes from the pockets of foreign investors. Countries in Europe and Asia invest in the U.S. by purchasing U.S. bonds, and have been for decades, given the United State's rich economic history. Calling China the United State's "landlord," a Jan. 18 cnnmoney.com article by Paul R. La Monica stated that "China owned \$895.6 billion in U.S. bonds as of November [2010]."

I believe that foreign investors, like China, may not want to keep their investments in the U.S. for long. Let me explain. An about.com article, "Value of the U.S. Dollar" by Kimberly Amadeo, states that in an effort to tackle our debt, the Federal Reserve is currently increasing the money

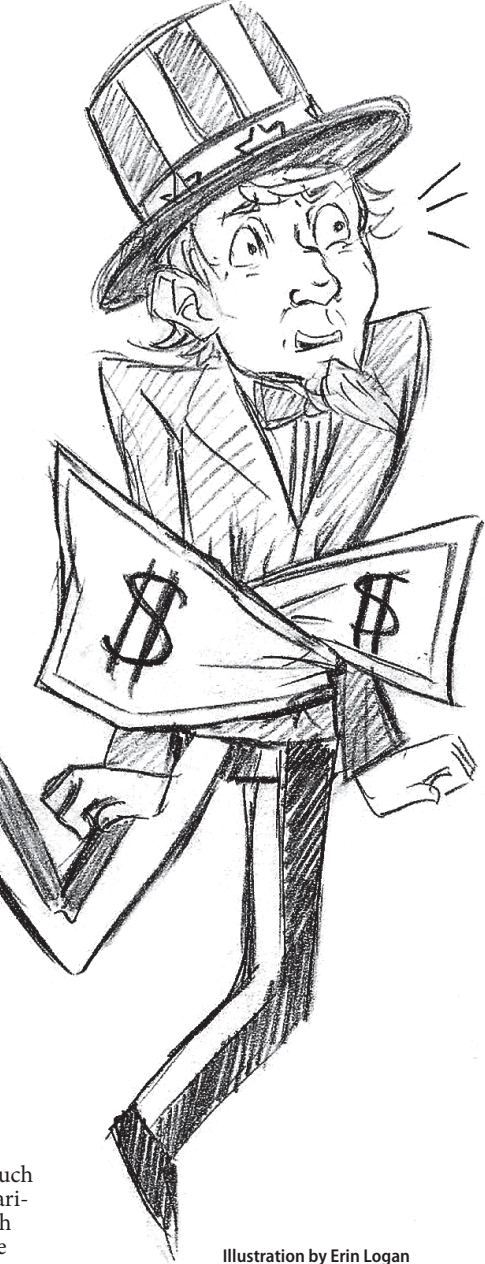
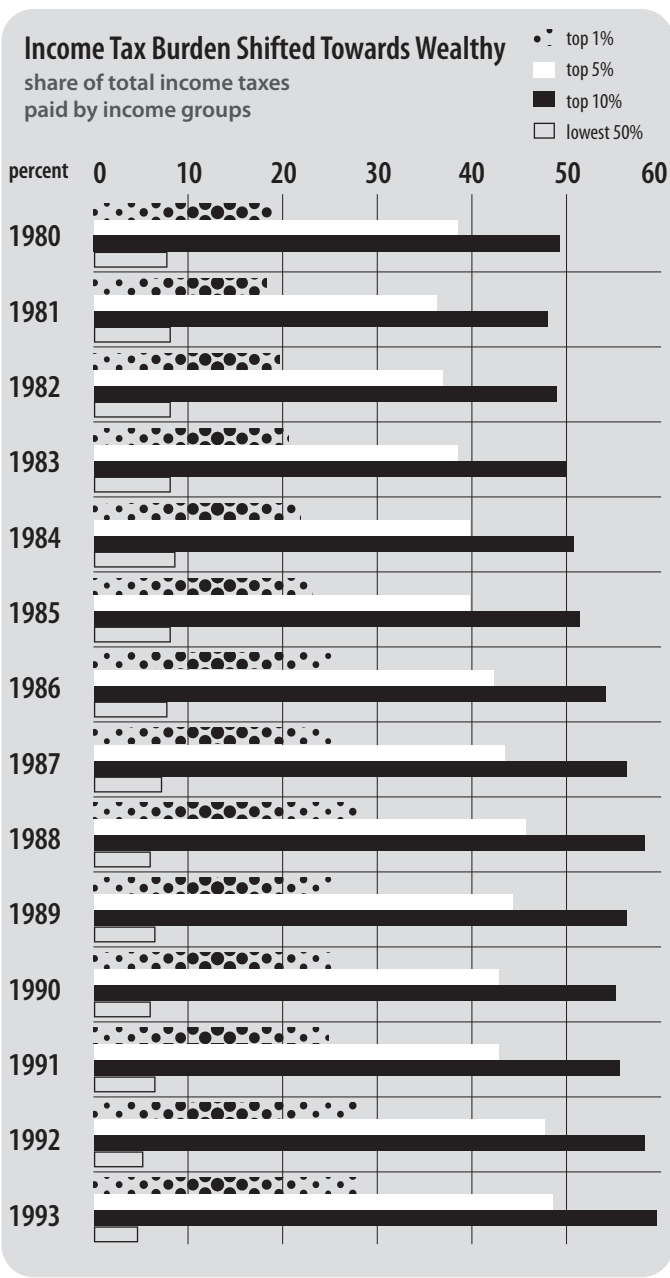


Illustration by Erin Logan

supply, thus devaluing the dollar. Although devaluation of the dollar can increase our exports and boost our economy, to me, the cons still outweigh the benefits.

Increasing the money supply and devaluing the dollar will certainly dilute our debt, but only temporarily. It's only a matter of time before investors catch wind that America is devaluing the dollar in effort to make our debt appear smaller than it actually is and that their U.S. bonds, and thus their profits, are losing value along side. This gives much incentive for investors to pull away from the dollar and seek more profitable currencies elsewhere, causing a reduction in demand for the dollar, pushing its value down even further. I realize all of this sounds cynical, but think of it this way: why would a bank want to give a loan to someone in such massive debt that defaulting is almost inevitable?



As you can see, wasteful government spending sets the stage for big problems and must be contained and reduced. Alongside a reduction in spending, I strongly believe that the tax cutting economic solutions that Ronald Reagan implemented during his tenure as president would be effective again today.

According to the U.S. House of Representatives' official website at house.gov, the goal of the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 was to boost the economic growth by cutting marginal tax rates by 25 percent across the board.

The Reagan administration knew that "high marginal tax rates discourage work effort, saving, and investment and promote tax avoidance and tax evasion." Instead, they proved that by cutting taxes, worker incentive and productivity increased and because taxpayers were more likely to own

up to their smaller share and not rely on tax avoidance. The government was actually able to reign in more tax revenue than before the tax cut. The tax burden was also shifted away from the lower and middle classes towards the top ten percent, as you can see in the graph.

What baffles me the most is that our country has already seen successful solutions in boosting our economy out of a recession, not only from Reagan, but also from leaders like Kennedy and Clinton, yet we still resort to quick, temporary fixes. What America needs now is to control and prioritize government spending, implement a Reagan-like tax reform and start using some common sense in order to regain our once strong economic footing.

Paige Steele is a junior in economics. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

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kansas state collegian

page 5

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		7	6			4	
	4		3	7			9
8				5			
3	9		2				
	6	8				4	9
					1	8	2
				1			8
7				2	5		1
	1				3	5	

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Rules: Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3x3 block contains 1-9 exactly once.

5	7	2	4	1	3	6	5	9
8	9	1	7	8	6	2	3	4
4	6	3	2	9	5	1	7	8
7	3	5	6	4	1	9	8	2
6	8	4	9	7	2	3	1	5
1	2	9	5	3	8	7	4	6
3	4	6	8	2	7	5	9	1
2	1	8	3	5	9	4	6	7
9	5	7	1	6	4	8	2	3

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014 Valentine's

ALLEY B. ~ I love you very much. You're the best thing to happen to me. Bobby F.

AUBREE, MY love grows every moment of the day. Your allure propels the breath from my lungs. The wonder you possess stays my incessant tongue. Our life together, give, accept a spiritual bouquet. Our life together makes the penultimate ballet. We dance to and fro, in the air we're flung. Like birds returning for spring, wild flowers sprung. Across the plains I smell the sea, far away. That is our love, the waves against the rocks. This thing forever, which outlasts the lot. We build our love upon a bedrock. With you myself and her, true lover's knot. The ship sails sails round clock, To and fro. We'll make this camelot.

CHLOE, YOU'RE my first Valentine that's ever really counted. I Spike Lee you.

DARIUS AND Tyler, Happy Valentine's Day to the best kids in the world- Love, Mommy!

014 Valentine's

ERIC: IT'S been almost to years so you don't have much of a chance, but I'm asking anyway. Will you be my Valentine? Love you!

EVAN, I was kinda hoping you would be my Valentine, maybe? I love you! Happy Valentine's Day- Stephanie.

014 Valentine's

G. HILL, will you be my Valentine?

JR~ YOU have all the "Love" you need on Valentine's Day! Bailey & Sister Friend

TYRONE- AKA-, Big T. Happy Valentine's Day. Love you- Wifey!

YEARBOOK LADIES, You all have been so good to me. It's like I have ten new older sisters. And I'm here as a big little brother to take care of you. HVD!

100 Housing/Real Estate

110 Rent-Apt. Unfurnished

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ONE-BEDROOM BASEMENT of house available now and four-bedroom houses available August 1, 785-539-8295.

Shoe store opens in Aggieville



The Purple Pump is the newest shoe and accessory store to open in Aggieville, selling stylish shoes at affordable prices. Besides shoes, the store also offers shoes, rings, bracelets, earrings and scarves.

Lauren Gocken | Collegian

Kelsey Castanon
edge and features editor

Cute, affordable, different. If you've been wondering about the store that has replaced Zotci's Attire in Aggieville, those three words are what The Purple Pump's store owner Sara Meyer used to describe the new shoe boutique. The store opened on Feb. 5 and sells "a little bit of everything for everybody," including all shoe styles, such as sandals, flats and heels, she said. Every shoe is different from other stores, and Meyer said The Purple Pump wouldn't reorder the same color or style that has already been sold. Though men's shoes could be in the future works, Meyer said the main priority is to sell great shoes for women.

"All the guys I know are saying I should start selling men's shoes, but men can wear the same shoe for a long period of time," she said. "But us women, we like our shoes. So we'll stick to women's for now, but maybe somewhere down the line, we'll start selling some men's shoes." Prices of shoes range anywhere from \$19.95, the store's least expensive shoe, to \$58, the store's most expensive, Meyer said. "Pricewise, we're kind of the middle ground. We are about the same price as Target and less expensive than Dillard's," she said. "We want to stay under Dillard's price point. We want to make it affordable for people." If you're looking for a different type of shoe the store doesn't offer, Meyer said she welcomes

any input from the public. "If they have something they're looking for but they can't find it (at the Purple Pump), they can let us know," Meyer said. "We love input. They can find our fan page on Facebook and send us a message there, or they can come in." The Purple Pump also offers "champagne and book parties," where individuals can close down the entire store for their "own little shopping event," Meyer said. To book a party, it's as simple as walking through the door. If you are like the many women in Manhattan who would like to see more affordable go-to shoe stores in town, The Purple Pump might just be the place for you to find a wide range of shoes that won't break the bank.

DRAG | Move to McCain a success

Continued from page 1

kind of followed." O'Dour said she was nervous about performing to such a large crowd as she stared into a mirror intensely focused on applying her make-up. While many performers only have friends in the audience, for O'Dour it has become a family event. Her mom, dad and grandmother regularly attend her shows. As the show began, the roar of the crowd rattled McCain's walls. Mariya Vaughan, vice president of the student organization for cultural studies, said she was excited for such a great turnout. After turning away 200 people last year, the organization decided to find

"When you're a kid, it's just not something you're aware of. Then to discover this extra layer to their personality, this extra talent — it's really exciting."

Caitlin Cash
Manhattan resident

a larger venue for the drag show. Vaughan said holding the event in McCain was easier than the group expected, and she hoped her organization would stay involved



Anthony Drath | Collegian

Patt O'Dour sings a song with Manhattan's Hot, Sticky and Sweet in McCain Auditorium Saturday night at the 5th Annual

with the drag show for years to come. For more than three hours, performers took to the stage in elaborate costumes and makeup, and while they danced to their chosen songs, throngs of fans walked to the stage to tip the ladies. Moree hosted the event and provided comic entertainment throughout the night as she introduced the talent. Local performer Ty Woo stood out from the other performers as she opted to sing her songs instead of lip-syncing. Entering the stage for her final performance, Woo was accompanied by a pianist and finished with a standing ovation at McCain. Woo also had some special fans in the audience. Caitlin Cash and Darin Strouts, Manhattan residents, were excited to see their old theater director perform. Woo, known to them as Tyler Woods, directed them in musicals organized by the Department of Parks and Recreation. "When you're a kid, it's just not something you're aware of," Cash said. "Then to discover this extra layer to their personality, this extra talent — it's really exciting."

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GRADES | Longhorns, Jayhawks clearly best in conference

Nebraska
Like the Cyclones, the Huskers were a surprise team in the Big 12 Conference. They have two key losses that could hurt them down the road in games against Texas Tech and Kansas State when they committed 22 turnovers. They lost by only three points to Kansas in Lawrence, but got walloped by them on their home court.
Grade: C+

Oklahoma
Early in the season, the Sooners were one of the worst teams in the Big 12. Now they are right in the middle of the pack with an even 4-4 record. Four of their players average at least 30 minutes a game. A bad sign for Oklahoma however is that they still have games against Texas, Missouri, Kansas State and Kansas with Texas and Kansas being the only ones at home.
Grade: C-

Oklahoma State
The Cowboys find ways to surprise teams as Keiton Page runs the point and somehow knocks down 3-pointers with hands in his face, as he's only 5 feet 10 inches. Starting forward Darrell Williams was recently arrested, but Marshall Moses and J.P. Olukeyi have the ability to pick up the slack. The Cowboys have only lost seven games, but five have come in the Big 12.
Grade: B-

Texas
The Longhorns fell from the national rankings fast last season, but have regrouped and could be the best team in the conference at season's end. They hold an 8-0 conference record and also ended Kansas' home winning streak. Led by Jordan Hamilton and Tristan Thompson, Texas could finish the season undefeated in the conference, especially with a win at Lawrence already under its belt.
Grade: A+

Texas A&M
The Aggies were looking as if they would be a top three conference team. Two losses to Texas and another at Nebraska have hurt them

some though. They're still ranked in the Top 25, but are on the road for five of their last eight games. Khris Middleton leads the team with 15 points per game.
Grade: B

Texas Tech
The Red Raiders resume isn't a pretty one to look at. Not only are they 11th in the conference, but they have also lost some winnable nonconference games. They fail to bring a key threat to the court day in, day out and their schedule doesn't get any easier. Texas Tech surrenders the most points per game in the conference.
Grade: D

-Compiled by Tyler Scott

CURRENT BIG 12 MEN'S STANDINGS							
Team	Big 12	Overall	Next Game	Team	Big 12	Overall	Next Game
Texas	10-0	22-3	vs. OSU	Oklahoma State	4-6	16-8	at UT
Kansas	9-1	24-1	at KSU	Nebraska	4-6	16-8	at OU
Texas A&M	6-4	19-5	vs. ISU	K-State	4-6	16-9	vs. KU
Baylor	6-5	16-8	vs. WBU*	Oklahoma	4-6	12-12	vs. NU
Missouri	5-5	19-6	vs. TTU	Texas Tech	3-7	11-14	vs. MU
Colorado	5-6	16-10	at KU	Iowa State	1-9	14-11	at TAMU

*Wayland Baptist University

Guard discusses K-State's season, Big 12

Ashley Dunkak
senior staff writer

Jacob Pullen is the senior point guard for K-State. After starting all 37 games last season and being honored with an All-Big 12 selection, the undisputed leader of the Wildcats is averaging 18.2 points in 32 minutes per game, the most on the squad. He leads the team with 78 assists, 34 steals, and 95 free throws made. Pullen recently sat down to discuss a variety of topics, including the current Big 12 standings.

Q: How has the team been doing in light of some of the recent off-the-court distractions?

A: I think we've been doing a great job of maintaining focus of the main goal, which is to win basketball games. When things happen off the court, you've got to deal with them, and you try to deal with them to the best of your ability. But you've also got to understand that when we step on the court, it's a getaway for us. It's the getaway from everything else that's going on in our lives and going on off the court. That's like our little sacred place where basketball, it frees our mind. As a team I think we've been doing a good job of moving forward through all the adversity we've been facing.

Q: What's been the progression of this team as it still tries to turn around from a difficult start in the Big 12 standings?

A: Going into the A&M game I think that's when we started preparing more to play, play better defense, play better offense. We had an awful game,

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JAYHAWKS | KU won by 34 points in previous meeting

Continued from Page T1

what happens when you play with a lot of passion. The game starts to fall your way."

In the Wildcats' last game against KU, five Jayhawks scored in double figures. That group included forward Thomas Robinson, who recently lost his 43-year-old mother to a heart attack. It was his first game in Allen Fieldhouse since the tragedy, and he put up 17 points against K-State. Robinson just underwent surgery for a torn MCL and will not play tonight.

The Morris twins, however, will still be a test inside for the Wildcat forwards. On Jan. 29, they combined for 30 points and 18 rebounds and controlled the game against K-State. On Saturday against Iowa State, they racked up 30 points and 22 rebounds. Arguably the best frontcourt tandem in the country, Markieff and Marcus present a matchup nightmare for K-State, which does not have the bulk to tangle with them in the post.

Martin said that while the scheduling does not do the team any favors by having it play two games in three days — one away and another against one of the best teams in the country — the players have been extremely resilient and committed to working. He praised their energy and enthusiasm and spoke of the team's attitude toward improvement.

"We're playing back-to-back games against teams who beat us the first time around," Martin said. "We take pride in playing teams that beat us again. We expect to win; we expect to win every game. You beat us the first game, we don't go home and cry. We try and work a little harder and better prepare."

With their 89-66 win over the Cyclones on Saturday, the Jayhawks looked likely to overtake the No. 1 spot in the polls. That may just tempt fate, however. After all, KU ranked No. 2 when the Wildcats got their win in 2008. Between the motivation of being bulldozed by KU earlier this season and the motivation that stems from losing in the most gut-wrenching manner imaginable to Colorado on Saturday, the Wildcats should have some pent-up emotion to take out on someone.



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TipOff Guide

Monday, Feb. 14, 2011 | K-State vs. Kansas

ROUND 2

K-State seniors **Curtis Kelly** (left) and **Jacob Pullen** will look to lead the Wildcats to a win over in-state rival Kansas tonight at Bramlage Coliseum.

Cats out for revenge against KU

Ashley Dunkak
senior staff writer

Having a short memory is a necessity for sports teams, and that trait will matter to the Wildcats more than ever tonight. On Saturday, K-State sustained a heartbreaking 58-56 loss to Colorado when Rodney McGruder's last-second 3-pointer was ruled to have left his hands after the final buzzer. After getting back to Manhattan in the wee hours of Sunday morning, the Wildcats take another shot at rival Kansas in Bramlage Coliseum tonight at 8.

The last meeting between KU (24-1, 9-1 Big 12) and K-State (16-9, 4-6 Big 12) ended in a 90-66 victory for the Jayhawks. For the Wildcats, who trailed for the vast majority of the game, it was a night to forget. Head coach Frank Martin, in fact, said he still has not watched it on tape. Some games should be forgotten and left in the past, and this was one of those, he said.

"Whatever we did last time didn't work real good, so we need a fresh start there," Martin said. Senior guard Jacob Pullen said the Wildcats can improve on everything from that game. He was particularly appalled by his team's defense, which, on Jan. 29, allowed the Jayhawks to shoot 61.8 percent from the floor, including 50 percent from beyond the arc.

"Defensively, we were atrocious," Pullen said. "We really shouldn't even have played defense.

We could have just stayed on the offensive side and tried to cherrypick and get layups or something because defensively we didn't do anything well. And as far as guarding the post, guarding the screens, we just gave them open shot after open layup after offensive rebound."

As far as the Wildcats' offensive performance, which included myriad missed 3-pointers and layups, Martin found it a bit difficult to explain the inefficiency of his team in that game with coming off as a smart aleck.

"I think we shot 12 more shots than them in the first half the first time we played, yet we were down 17," Martin said. "So that should give you an idea that they made shots and we definitely didn't make any."

Pullen said K-State will have to be aggressive in tonight's game and go on the offensive instead of being on its heels. That kind of mindset is what he remembers from the Wildcats' 2007 victory over the Jayhawks.

"We brought the fight to them," Pullen said. "I remember that. From the jump ball, we were excited. We played with passion. When you're having a night like that, a lot of things went our way, whether it was Clent [Stewart] falling on the floor and slapping the ball to Mike [Beasley] for a three, or throwing the touchdown pass to Bill [Walker] for a dunk, a lot of things went our way and that's

JAYHAWKS | pg. T4

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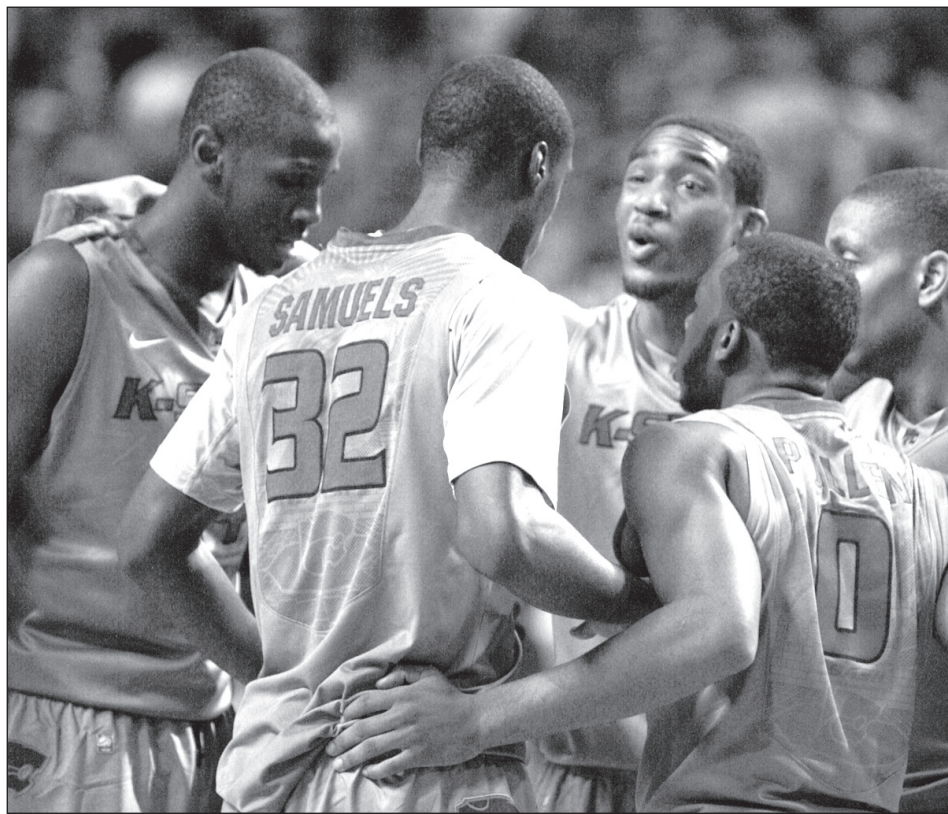
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Lisle Alderton | Collegian

When the K-State starters haven't performed well this season, the bench players have provided a spark on several occasions.

Bench points have been pivotal

Ashley Dunkak
senior staff writer

For the Wildcats to have a chance to win hard games, seniors Jacob Pullen and Curtis Kelly have to play like grown men all the time. That was the assessment of head coach Frank Martin. He acknowledges, however, that there is an alternative, one from which K-State has benefited multiple times this season. This alternative comes into play, the coach said, when one of the seniors plays like a grown man and the other does not.

"You're going to need kind of what happened at Iowa State — a plethora of guys to contribute with different ways, whether it be Nick [Russell] or Martavius [Irving] or Will [Spradling], or Shane [Southwell], when he's done some good things," Martin said. "Jamar [Samuels], Jamar's attitude has been off the charts. Now we need him to make layups, to grab some rebounds, the things that he did to make himself the player that he was for us last year and that he's been at times this year."

It sounds a bit jumbled, a bit messy, a bit scattered, all those names and names. But the diversity of players on K-State's bench is one of the reasons the Wildcats have done as well as they have despite the graduation of Denis Clemente, Luis Colon and Chris Merriewether and the departure of Dominique Sutton.

K-State's youth and adjacent immaturity has been a problem at times this season, whether it manifested itself in a lack of leadership or a lack of free throws going in during games. As the year has progressed, though, the issues seem to be fading, and Martin said he is excited about where the team is going.

"We continue to be young as a team, and all those guys are accepting responsibilities better

and better and better," Martin said.

Indeed, the team appears to be benefiting from its depth more and more as the season continues. Only Pullen and sophomore guard Rodney McGruder average more than 30 minutes per game. Three more average between 20 and 25 minutes per game, and five more contribute an average court time of between 10 and 20 minutes.

Having a surplus of trusted, capable players gives a team a significant advantage for many reasons. First, they can go in and give the starter a breather without allowing a drop-off in the team's level of play. Second, if one of the starters is having a hard time scoring, chances of a bench player being able to pick up the slack are much greater if a variety of talented players are available. Third, individuals on a stacked team can play more aggressively, with more abandon, if they know they can have five fouls in a span of 25 or 30 minutes versus a span of 40 minutes.

Those coming off the bench for K-State are an integral part of the team, and watching Martin sub in and out during the course of a game, it's easy to see that he is well aware of this.

The Wildcats are 16-9 and 4-6 in the Big 12 so far this season, and 9 of their 25 games have been decided by fewer than 10 points. Especially in these close games, players coming off the bench have been critical for K-State.

Although substitutes bring intangibles such as energy, hustle and freshness into games, their quantifiable contributions certainly affect the outcome of the games. In these nine close games listed below, approximately one third of K-State's total score came from points off the bench. As it turns out, the percentage is higher in games the Wildcats won (38.44) and lower in those it lost (25.66).

GAMES DECIDED BY 10 POINTS OR FEWER

Date	Score/Opponent	Bench points
Nov. 18	76-67 vs. Presbyterian (W)	32 (42.1 %)
Dec. 3	63-58 at Washington State (W)	21 (33.3 %)
Dec. 11	68-60 at Loyola of Chicago (W)	24 (35.3 %)
Dec. 21	63-59 vs. UNLV* (L)	17 (28.8 %)
Jan. 12	74-66 vs. Colorado (L)	21 (31.8 %)
Jan. 22	64-56 at Texas A&M (L)	12 (21.4 %)
Jan. 24	69-61 vs. Baylor (W)	21 (30.4 %)
Feb. 5	86-85 at Iowa State (W)	44 (51.1 %)
Feb. 12	58-56 at Colorado (L)	12 (21.4 %)

*Game played at Sprint Center in Kansas City, Mo.

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REPORT CARD

Columnist evaluates every Big 12 team



Jennifer Heeke | Collegian

K-State head coach **Frank Martin** has faced several off-the-court issues this season. The Wildcats are currently 4-6 in Big 12 Conference play.

With the Big 12 season now over halfway finished, some teams have surprised the league while others haven't lived up to their expectations. The Collegian's Tyler Scott breaks down the progress of each conference squad and grades them based on their regular season performances.

Baylor

The Bears have had struggles this season, as in the beginning they were looking to be a big threat in the conference. With losses to Iowa State, Oklahoma and Kansas

State, Baylor still sits high in the standings. They are a bit young, but pulled off a big overtime win at Texas A&M. **Grade: B**

Colorado

After wins against Kansas State and Oklahoma State, the Buffaloes conference resume has started to tumble. They have lost six of their last nine conference games and sit in ninth place in the Big 12. Alec Burks and Cory Higgins lead the team in points and minutes per game. **Grade: C-**

Iowa State

The Cyclones season has been in a skid as of recent. They have a conference worst 1-8 record, but lost a tough game to Kansas State at home on Saturday. Head coach Fred Hoiberg is in his first season as the coach, but is showing promise in his coaching ability. Diante Garrett leads the team in points with 18 per game. **Grade: D**

Kansas

Once again, the Jayhawks are the biggest threat in the

conference. Picked to finish second by the coaches, they are holding that spot. Their only loss came at home to Texas, but Kansas may be the deepest team out of all 12 teams. The Morris twins are playing better than ever and Thomas Robinson complements them with solid scoring and rebounding. **Grade: A**

K-State

From leadership issues to departing players the Wildcats have been in a mess of trouble. Critics thought they would win the conference, but it may be tough for them to even finish in the top five when all is said and done. The losses of Denis Clemente, Luis Colon and Dominique Sutton left voids in a lot of categories and nobody has really been there to pick up the slack. With inexperience and leaky team play K-State may have trouble finishing off the season as a positive and even making an NCAA appearance. **Grade: C**

Missouri

The Tigers lost a good amount of skill last season, but have been able to back it up a bit with solid play from Marcus Denmon, Kim English and Ricardo Ratliffe. Head coach Mike Anderson has made a solid impact as the coach and Missouri has the potential to win at least six of their last games of the season. Losses to Colorado and Kansas, which they played poor defense in, are the only games holding the Tigers out of a top three spot in the conference. **Grade: A-**

GRADES | pg. T4

By the numbers: Telling stats about K-State

Notable statistics from K-State's 58-56 loss at Colorado on Saturday.

30.8

-Field goal percentage

The Wildcats really had a hard time getting the ball in the basket on Saturday in Colorado. First, they just struggled to make shots. On 36 misses, K-State grabbed 18 offensive rebounds. Obviously, there were some missed opportunities. While the Wildcats got nine more attempts from the charity stripe than the Buffaloes did, both teams converted 18. The young guys in particular suffered cold shooting nights. Freshmen Will Spradling and Shane Southwell went a combined 2 of 11 from the field, while sophomores Martavius Irving, Nick Russell and Jordan Henriquez-Roberts each got only one basket in a total of seven attempts.

10

-Total turnovers by K-State

Players will run "Frank Martin sprints," as junior forward Jamar Samuels labels the 22-second down-and-back, down-and-back running exercise for each turnover the Wildcats commit after reaching their limit of 15. After Saturday's performance, K-State will be spared its extra conditioning — at least as far as giveaways are concerned. (Free throw shooting, of course, is another matter. The Wildcats managed to miss 13 of them in a two-point loss.)

47

-Fouls by both teams

The officiating of this game — I think both coaches would probably agree — drove me crazy. Five times — five! — they stopped to review plays, including two that eventually yielded technical fouls because they involved a player

turning with elbows out and inadvertently whacking someone. Sometimes games get out of hand and it seems like ticky-tack touches are being whistled and egregious muggings are ignored. Referees have a difficult job always, but on Saturday night, it looked exceedingly complicated — moreso than it needed to be, in my opinion.

11

-Lead changes

The Wildcats' game in Colorado on Saturday was a legitimate see-saw, capped off by a negated buzzer-beater. There are games in which the score is close but it is evident throughout that one team is stronger than the other and will just prevail despite the occasional surge from its opponent, and there are games where you really can't tell which way it's going to turn out. This was one of the latter. To go along with the 11 lead changes were seven ties.

37

-Total rebounds by the Wildcats

Am I the only one who is a little thrown off by the fact that our forwards are starting to outrebound sophomore guard Rodney McGruder? Junior Jamar Samuels had seven boards while senior Curtis Kelly and sophomore Jordan Henriquez-Roberts each had six. McGruder had only three against Colorado while scoring 11 points.

6

-Made 3-pointers

K-State looked frightening beyond the arc in the first half, making only two long-range shots in 12 attempts. The next half, the Wildcats went 50 percent from the 3-point line, making four shots in eight attempts. Pullen and McGruder each missed three attempts from far, while Spradling whiffed on five.

-Compiled by Ashley Dunkak

Team seems to be gaining confidence down the stretch



Tyler Scott

We've all heard about it over and over again. K-State has been the victim of surprising player departures, suspensions and a once eye-opening top three AP preseason ranking. Now the team is unranked and senior forward Curtis Kelly is on the team and will play the rest of the season after accusations came out that he had violated a team rule.

Yet, after all of this, K-State is still somewhat alive in the Big 12 Conference with a league record of 4-6. This trend has made the team more positive and seems to be playing with a lot of confidence.

However, the problems the Wildcats have had over the season have to be rectified as an issue. Junior transfer forward Freddy Asprilla decided to leave the team to help his mother in Colombia, which may have turned out to be a lie because he is currently playing at Canisius College in New York. Sophomore forward and 2009 McDonald's All-American Wally Judge decided to quit the team due to personal reasons and is yet to transfer to another school.

These two players have been the subject of many other dismissals from college basketball teams this season. So far, more than 400 players in the NCAA have decided to leave or have been dismissed from their previous teams. Others include North Carolina's Larry Drew III and West Virginia's Dan Jennings — who actually left during a game.

In my opinion, I think Wally Judge flat out quit due to lack of playing time and he has never seemed to grow up within himself. His immaturity has overpowered his willing to show up and be a factor in games. After showing promise last season, Judge was only averaging 15 minutes per game before exiting the team.

On the other hand, to me,

Asprilla's situation seems to be a bit unknown. Who really knows if he traveled back to his home country to help his mother? If not, the situation he is in now answers the question. Asprilla only averaged 16 minutes per game and less than five points. He never really developed into a solid replacement for Luis Colon. Right now, Colon seems to be the bigger man and should be because of his leadership skills.

My point is, even with these unfortunate issues these particular players showed, K-State, as a team now, seems to be showing a better overall attitude. Kelly's suspected situation did shock a lot of people, but thankfully he will still be in uniform and playing the rest of the season. No matter how the season ends record wise, I think this group of players showed promise after all the adversity and outside critics thoughts. The national media has made a bigger assumption about how this team has struggled more than the people who actually follow K-State. To the national media out there, you may want to do more reporting on how our players feel now, instead of spending more time criticizing the team for all the bad situations the Wildcats have been in.

If you want to find something to investigate and report on, look into how Kansas has gotten away with so much over the last 10 years — from former players forging their high school transcripts so they could play in Lawrence, to head coach Bill Self speaking to John Wall at a camp when he even admitted he shouldn't be.

There's still something positive for Wildcat fans to look forward to. K-State will look to rock the nation if it can pull off a victory tonight at home against Kansas. The Wildcats caught a little bit of a break, as Kansas sophomore forward Thomas Robinson will not play after undergoing surgery for a torn MCL and is supposed to miss two weeks.

Enjoy the game tonight, K-State fans.

Tyler Scott is a senior in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to sports@ksu.edu.

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